

THE DAILY CONSTITUTION

MONDAY MORNING, JAN. 21, 1877.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS.

The decisions for the July term, 1876, are now ready.

The pamphlet will be furnished to subscribers at \$1, and to all others at \$2.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

We announce the name of Mr. W. L. L. HARRIS, our business manager, as the candidate of the Constitution for state printer.

We refer to the course of our newspaper as a basis of our claims on the democratic party of Georgia, and to the general interest of the people in our printing establishment as to our ability to promptly and properly perform the work.

THE ROMANCE OF SPARE-RIB PIE.

Our exchanges frequently furnish us with tempting materials for social studies, but as a general thing we have neither the inclination nor the opportunity to devote much space to them.

Once in a while, however, we are tempted to depart from the prosy methods of routine journalism, and dip an eager pen into the violet ink of love's foolishness.

Time, for example, we have before us, fresh and fragrant, the romantic history of the marriage of Miss Ida Barker, of Heard county, Miss Ida, it should be borne in mind, is the daughter of "Squire Barker," and she was in love—deeply in love—with Mr. P. S. Barker, of Smith.

It would appear, from the account of the marriage before us, that the "Squire" was aware that the affections of his daughter were lavished upon Mr. P. S. Barker, and as the said Barker found no favor in his eyes, he made strenuous objections to receiving P. S. Barker as his son-in-law.

Matters remained in statu quo (to quote from General Anagnor) until the evening of the 11th, on which date the "Squire" fell a victim to his own weakness. This weakness (we can well understand) was not of the kind which the gentle reader took the pleasing shape of an unconquerable fondness for spare-rib pie. Of this fact, as may well be supposed, the lovely Ida was duly aware. Wherefore, upon the date here mentioned, she carried to the house of a neighbor—Mr. Tilly—a plentiful supply of the material from which that enticing dish is constructed, and brought her, as an experienced architect, to build a pie, suited to the appetite and capacity of the aged epicure.

This matter settled, Miss Ida, with fight and joyous mien, bore to her father the glad tidings that, Mrs. Tilly had invited him to supper, and that the groundwork of the feast was spare-rib pie. Whereupon the "Squire" rubbed his eyes, and proceeded to pay his respects to Mrs. Tilly and his favorite dish. It is needless, perhaps, to remark here that simple justice was done to the culinary art of his fair hostess—namely, to remark that the "Squire" was the aroma of the pie had been exhausted.

Returning to his own domicile, he missed the sunny presence of his daughter. Immediately, overloaded as he was with spare-rib pie, he scented a rat in the air, and, armed with a friendly shot-gun, he started upon the trail of the couple. In the meantime, P. S. Barker, taking advantage of the "Squire's" absence, fled to Carroll county, and, in the next morning, was found at the residence of a certain consummation of course put an end to all troubles. But this is no novel. The vindictive "Squire," armed with a shot-gun and followed by a posse, pursued the couple, broke into their room, and, in the twinkling of an eye, laid them both to rest. The "Squire" then returned to his father's roof, and it was there that some of our readers who desire to verify the statement herein made, we refer them to the last issue of the Franklin News. As to P. S. Barker, well, the news we can say is a little good, as is to wish him better luck next time.

THE STATE LOTTERY BUSINESS.

We have given in our local columns a full review of the contest in regard to the state lottery, which bids fair to be renewed with more vigor than ever.

Opinions of both sides have been immorally set forth by our reporters, so that the public might be able to judge of the case upon its merits. We are free to say that, in our opinion, no good argument has been yet advanced in support of the continuation of the "policy shops" that now form the basis of what is known as the state lottery. What is intended as an argument in favor thereof, really takes the shape and direction of an excuse. It is the claim that it is a charitable institution, and that the proceeds of the lottery are used for the relief of the poor and the maintenance of the state.

Those who are disposed to be critical might well object to the claim. Can that be called charity which depends upon the ignorance and credulity of the people to make donations to another class? Can that be called charity which organizes a species of gambling quite as demoralizing as keno or faro, and infinitely more attractive to the simplicity of those most likely to become victims of the lottery?

Does the end justify the means? Does the end justify the means? Does the end justify the means?

Gov. Colquitt's special message.

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